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b) biaxial tenter stretching the film to a peak first direction stretch parameter which is greater than the final first direction stretch parameter, wherein the final first direction stretch parameter is less than the uniaxial natural stretch parameter, wherein at least 75% of the final first direction stretch parameter is attained before no more than 50% of the final second direction stretch parameter is attained, and wherein the final first direction stretch parameter is no greater than the final second direction stretch parameter; and

c) subsequent to step b), retracting the film in the first direction from the peak first direction stretch parameter to the final first direction stretch parameter; wherein uniformity of properties is attained in the film in the first direction by steps a) through c) despite the final first direction stretch parameter being less than the uniaxial natural stretch parameter.

Remarks

Claims 17-18 and 20-42 remain in this application. Claim 17 has been amended. No new matter has been added. A replacement page reflecting the changes to the claims is attached in accordance with 37 C.F.R. §1.121.

Please charge any fees that may be associated with this paper to Deposit Account No. 13-3723.

Respectfully Submitted,

Date: 17 January 2002 By: Carolyn V. Peters
Carolyn V. Peters
Registration No. 33,271

Office of Intellectual Property Counsel
3M Innovative Properties Company
P.O. Box 33427
St. Paul, Minnesota 55133-3427
Telephone: (651) 736-7929
Facsimile: (651) 736-3833